



Timely Tidbits ...

Taylor Man's Death Ruled Suicide

A police investigation and autopsy results from the Wayne County Medical Examiner's office conclude that the January 23 death of a 38-year-old Taylor man was a suicide.

Taylor Police were called at about 9 a.m. when a passerby found the body near a set of railroad tracks in the area of Ecorse and Telegraph roads.

Police say the man was not struck by a train; rather, it appears he jumped from a bridge located just above the tracks. He died from head injuries sustained during his fall.

The man's name had not been released as of press time.

Discount Cards Raise Funds for Kennedy

Members and boosters of the John F. Kennedy High School Band are raising funds by selling discount cards that can be used at 19 Taylor businesses. The discounts are good for restaurant dining, pizza, donuts, ice cream, bowling, video rentals, sporting goods, oil changes, haircuts, and more.

"We appreciate the participation of local merchants," said Band Boosters member Charley Johnson. "It's all about helping the kids and helping the businesses at the same time."

To obtain the discount cards – \$5 each – talk to a Kennedy High School band member, visit the William D. Ford Senior Activity Center (6750 Troy Street), or call Johnson at 313-304-2173.

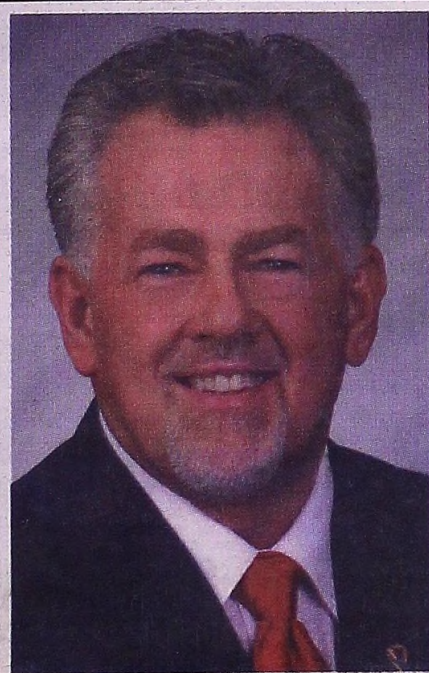
Place Free Valentines in the little paper

The little paper is inviting our readers to place up to three Valentine's Day greetings (maximum of 50 words each), free of charge, in our February 12 issue.

To send a message to your sweetheart, loved one, or friend, e-mail it to thelittlepaper@comcast.net, along with your name and telephone number (not for publication), no later than Friday, February 5.

The little paper reserves the right to reject any message it deems inappropriate. For more information, call 734-941-1907. □

Lambert Pledges Pay Cut to "Lead by Example" as Citizen Panel Unveils Ideas to Fix Romulus Budget



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert

Mayor Alan R. Lambert has promised to cut his own salary and benefits as the City of Romulus seeks ways to avoid future budget shortfalls, employee layoffs, and cuts in services. His announcement came on the heels of a citizen panel's report about ways to keep Romulus financially stable.

ACT-Now (Action in Challenging Times-Now) – a committee tasked with studying the City's projected fiscal woes, then brainstorming local methods for fixing them – presented its findings to City Council on January 25. The group's recommendations focused on three strategies: making major reductions, generating new revenue, and reforming government.

"As mayor, my job is to lead by example, and I'm going to share in the sacrifice by cutting my own pay and health care to help fix our budget before I ask our citizens to make any more sacrifices than they already have," Lambert said. "Romulus is in a fight for our lives, and we will get through these tough times together."

"For years, Romulus has lived within our means and tightened our belts," he continued. "We are going to do even more in coming years to tighten our belts and save taxpayer dollars. The ACT-Now panel pooled together the best ideas from citizens within our community who represent all walks of life. They unanimously offered these strategies, which call on all of us to come together to protect jobs and public safety. I call on our community to rally together, too. This is a time for all of us to come as one and help our community get

through the worst economic crisis we have seen in generations."

Tim Keyes, the City's Economic Development director, concurred with Lambert's belief that action is needed.

"Though Romulus has been one of the most fiscally responsible communities in Michigan in the past decade – generating recent surpluses while protecting services and even creating local jobs – a global, national, and statewide economic tsunami threatens to swamp all Michigan communities," said Keyes. "If Romulus does not reform its budget, the City will deplete its savings next year, and faces a projected \$4-million-a-year budget hole beginning in 2012 that would significantly slash important services, lay off workers, and gut public safety."

During a public hearing held on January 21, a standing-room-only crowd of nearly 100 citizens packed the council chambers at City Hall to offer their feedback on ACT-Now's recommendations for protecting important public services. The panel proposed the following strategies:

- mandate that City government make across-the-board cuts to save taxpayer dollars;
- put a public-safety millage proposal before voters; and
- reform government, through an update of the City Charter, to streamline departments and cut costs.

Following ACT-Now's presentation to City elected officials the following Monday, Council Chairman LeRoy Burcroff, who was also a member of the task force, reminded residents that no action has been taken on any of the suggestions.

"Just to set the record straight ... right now, they're all just recommendations," said Burcroff. "Believe me, when action items come up, they'll be very public, very transparent, and everybody will have the opportunity to participate."

Burcroff also commented on the daunting task faced by the committee, and its hopes that compromise by all parties will allow the City to maintain a satisfactory level of services.

"Two big things that came up in our first meeting were no taxes and no layoffs," he stated. "We went through a lot of brutal reality with [City auditors] Plante & Moran, and, by the end of the session, long story short, it was very obvious that we're going to have to look at budget issues, particularly the way our charter is written, and allow the people to make some decisions

on what services they want."

One of those decisions will probably involve a request for higher taxes.

"We did start off saying no taxes, no layoffs," said Mayor Lambert, "but it has become apparent, I think, that we're gonna have to have a millage increase, and what I [suggested] was a two-mill increase over a five-year period. That's about a \$100-per-year increase [per household]."

"And we're all gonna have to sacrifice here at City Hall, as well," he added. "We're all gonna have to take a pay cut – I don't know the percentage yet, maybe we're looking at somewhere around 5% across the board – but, you know what? People still have their jobs [while] thousands of other people, every day, are losing theirs."

The ACT-Now task force, which began meeting in mid December, is made up of City of Romulus and Romulus Community Schools elected officials and department heads, union representatives, business leaders, clergy, and ordinary citizens.

More information – including various documents used at the ACT-Now meetings – may be found on the City's Web site: <http://romulusgov.com>. □

New Displaced Workers Guidebook Available

With the announcement that Michigan's unemployment rate was a whopping 14.6% last month, the release of Congressman John D. Dingell's updated guidebook for displaced workers couldn't have come at a better time.

The 2010 Displaced Workers Guidebook for Michigan's unemployed has 16 pages of new information, including listings of:

- free health clinics and low-cost prescription drugs;
- public libraries with free Internet service;
- organizations that provide job preparation assistance;
- additional organizations that offer food and nutrition assistance, free child care, transportation assistance, utility assistance, weatherization assistance, home repairs, and other general assistance.

The guidebook can be found on Congressman Dingell's Web site: www.house.gov/dingell. □

Guest Commentary

Struggling to Change the Establishment

By Mayor Jeffrey P. Lamarand, City of Taylor

As a newly elected mayor, one of my most difficult tasks has been to break the mind-set of "established practices" and the stranglehold these practices have on the day-to-day operations of a municipal government. Changing faces is not an answer to the problems we face with revenue shortfalls due to declining property values, the scarcity of business creation and a flooded housing market; we must change the way that governments operate. "Reform" and "change" are words that get thrown around too often, but because you're fighting the establishment, they have to be more than political catch phrases. Now, more than ever, we need to live within our means.

It has been far too long since Taylor operated within a realistic capacity. For more than a decade, the City of Taylor has operated in a structural deficit – that is, when you spend more money than you're taking in. Trying to spend all of the money you collect doesn't necessarily make good government. The practice has now come to the proverbial "head" with a pending \$6-million deficit and a "rainy day" fund that couldn't even afford an umbrella. The time for ACTION is now, and the days of talking, compromising and carrying out personal and political agendas need to be a thing of the past. We get plenty of that rhetoric from those in Lansing and Washington, D.C.

Even though this appears to be a daunting task (and it probably is), I was elected to do what I campaigned to do, and in just less than three months in office I

have initiated measures that are the first steps in the process. They include:

1) Making personnel moves that reduced excessive administrative salaries and eliminated unnecessary jobs. Results: savings of approximately \$750,000 in personnel costs.

2) Securing a 15% reduction in my own pay through the compensation commission (as well as reduction to all elected officials' wages). Results: savings of approximately \$35,000.

3) Proposing new corporation counsel for the city, reducing rates from \$150 per hour to \$90 per hour. Results: anticipated savings of \$200,000 or more (plus additional savings in legal costs).

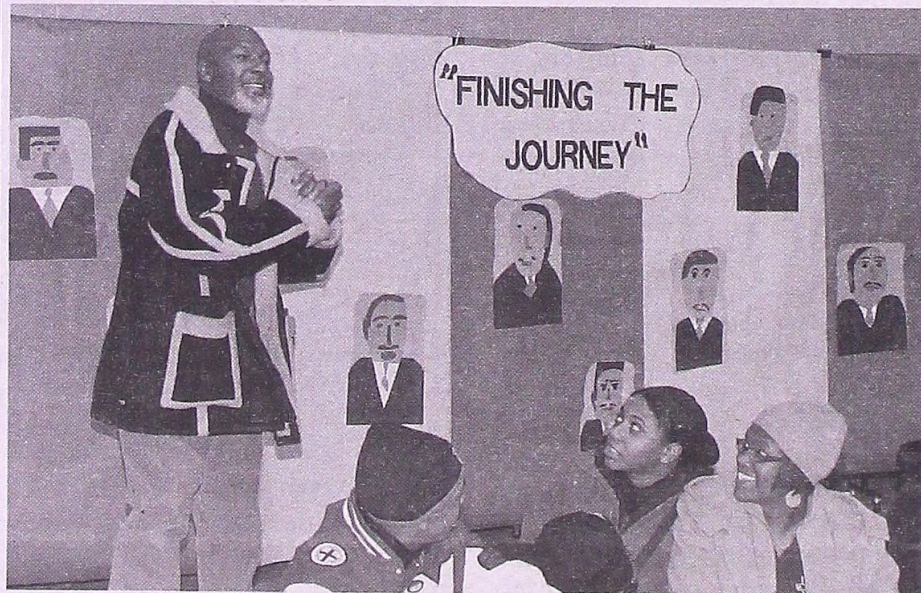
While these cuts are a good start, they are far from where we ultimately need to be. The city administration is seeking ways to save every tax dollar possible prior to the end of the current fiscal year and certainly millions more in the months and years after that. We want to do it, we need to do it and we have to get solid support from the City Council.

The voters made a clear choice in the last election that they were ready for the city to be taken in a new direction. Sometimes change is hard. Today, change is our only option.

* * *

Editor's note: The "Guest Commentary" column is open to all responsible individuals and spokespersons who wish to share their viewpoint about issues of interest to readers of the little paper. For more information, call 734-941-1907. □

Romulus Celebrates Dr. King's Legacy



Reverend Arthur Willis, pastor of the Pentecostal Baptist Church, spoke to the crowd at Cory Elementary prior to their participation in a ceremonial walk celebrating the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Later, citizens gathered at Romulus High School for a pancake breakfast, followed by a commemorative program featuring music, dance, and remarks from community leaders. Photo by R. E. Kadan

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Senate Approves Basham Bill to Protect Michigan Drivers from Electronic Stalking

On Wednesday, the Michigan Senate voted to pass Senate Bill 1572, legislation that will make it a misdemeanor for a person to install a tracking device in or on another person's vehicle without their consent or knowledge.

"Technology will only continue to advance – and, to ensure our citizens are protected from unlawful uses, our legislation must reflect these changes," said Senator Raymond E. Basham (D-Taylor), who introduced the bill. "Tracking a person's vehicle location is not only a violation of their privacy, but also could be dangerous to their safety in stalking situations."

Basham said that law-enforcement

agents brought this issue to his attention after they were contacted by an elected official whose mechanic discovered that a tracking device had been installed on her vehicle when she took it in for repairs. The legislation is supported by both the Michigan State Police and the Michigan Sheriffs' Association.

The bill includes exemptions for police officers, professional investigators, and bail agents, as well as for devices that track vehicles to provide mechanical, directional, or stolen vehicle assistance, and weather or traffic information.

The bill will now be sent to the State House of Representatives for its consideration. □

Romulus Students Commemorate MLK Day with Food Distribution Program



Romulus Community Schools students and other volunteers celebrated the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by distributing thousands of pounds of food to local families on January 13. Photo by R. E. Kadau

On January 13, Romulus students combined classroom lessons with real-life experience when they participated in a food distribution program in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Hand-to-Hand: Bridging Hunger unit encompassed a variety of educational activities that helped students learn about the problems associated with hunger and food insecurity, while also empowering the students by helping them take action to work towards eliminating the problem of hunger in their community.

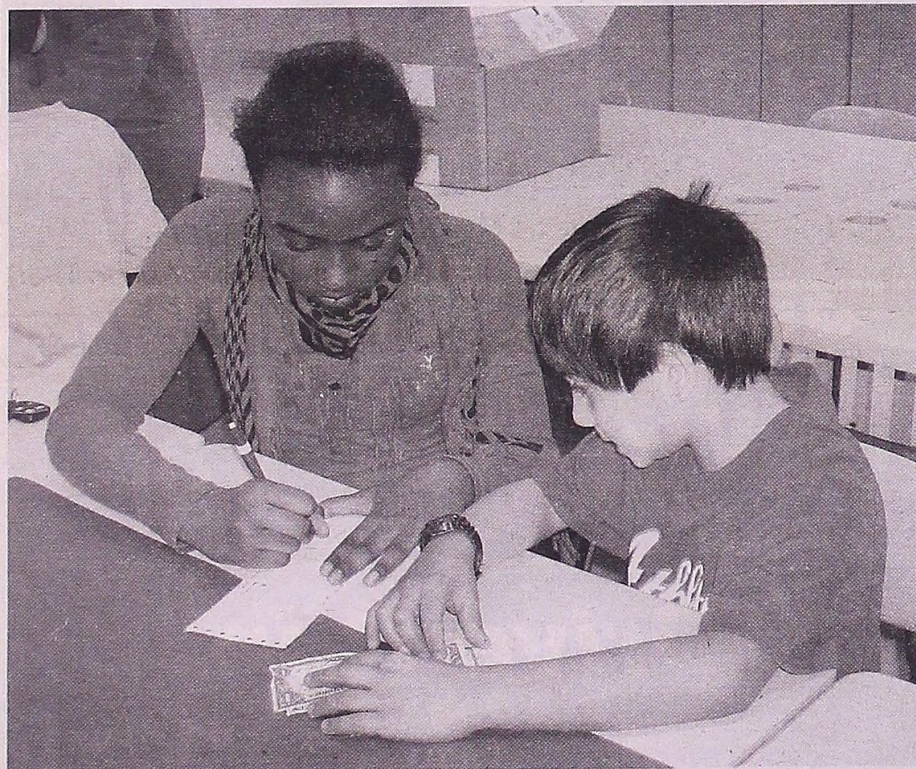
The unit – created by Barth teacher Julie Wadsworth and Middle School teachers Akua Saulsberry and Cari Thurkow – culminated with a massive community food distribution program, providing 20,000 pounds of food purchased at Gleaners Community Food Bank for over 200 Romulus families.

Romulus Middle School seventh-grade social studies classes partnered with the Barth Elementary Student Council and the Romulus High School LEAGUE community-service club for the project. Students participating in the Hand-to-Hand program worked from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., packing 250 boxes and distributing them to families in Romulus. The boxes contained nonperishable and perishable food items, as well as formula and food for infants.

The Romulus High School Interact Club (a Romulus Rotary service club for young people) and the Romulus Wesleyan Church also teamed up with the students to help serve and assist families in need.

The Hand-to-Hand: Bridging Hunger unit will include a trip to Gleaners Community Food Bank Distribution Center in Detroit, where students will volunteer to assist the agency in its daily operations. □

PSCU Program Teaches Valuable Lessons



Students at Merriman Elementary in Romulus are saving money for college by depositing money into their very own Public Service Credit Union accounts. Here, Leah Morgan, a sixth-grade PSCU assistant, is helping Bassith Siddiqui complete his deposit slip.



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Students Make Blankets for Project Linus



Students in Mrs. Ryznar's first-grade class at Cory Elementary in Romulus recently made a donation to Project Linus – a nonprofit organization that collects only handmade blankets and donates them to people in need. Funding, courtesy of a LEAGUE grant donation, was used to purchase fabric and supplies that students used to create 18 new blankets.

Taylor Rotary Putt-Putt Golf Classic Raises Money for Area Food Pantry



Looking forward to the 10th annual Putt-Putt Golf Classic are (from left) Taylor Rotary President Ed Sell, Secretary Betty Sutyak, Chris Coffman, chairman of the event. Photo by Dave Gorgon/City of Taylor

The 10th annual Taylor Rotary Putt-Putt Golf Classic will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, February 13, inside Taylor Meadows Golf Club (25360 Goddard Road).

All proceeds from the event will support the Fish and Loaves Community Food Pantry, which provides sustenance to hungry people in Taylor and many surrounding communities.

The 18-hole, four-person scramble for up to 96 players is open to the public. An entry fee of \$45 per player includes a practice golf round, a competition golf round, and – for the best 18 golfers – a winners round. The evening will also feature hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, a cash bar, golf prizes, and a raffle.

"Our annual Putt-Putt Golf event is so much fun, allows people from the community to network with one another, and supports a great cause," said event chairman Chris Coffman, store manager of the Taylor Walmart. "Fish and Loaves Community Food Pantry provides such important service in our community, serving more than a million pounds of food every year. But, the only way it succeeds is through volunteer efforts and financial contributions. The Rotarians want to do our part."

Rotary is the largest service organization in the world, with 1.2-million members in 29,000 clubs in some 160 countries. As volunteers, Rotarians build good will and peace, provide humanitarian service, and encourage high ethical standards in all

vocations.

For more than 60 years, the Taylor Rotarians have been active members of the community. They have sponsored fire safety programs, the "Turn Off the Violence" event at Heritage Park, the Taylor Conservatory & Botanical Gardens, the local National Guard Armory Family Readiness Group, literacy programs, world medical relief, Christmas gifts and shoes for underprivileged children, and Rotary Park on Telegraph Road. They also participate in other city events and charitable functions.

For sponsorship opportunities or registration information for the Putt-Putt Golf Classic, contact Coffman at 734-789-9098 or send e-mail to cccofm@hotmail.com. □

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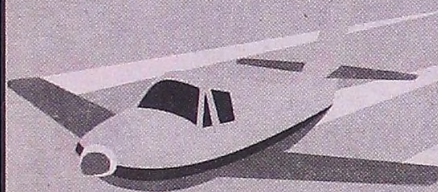
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Oakwoods Metropark Offers Winter Fun

For additional information, or to register for programs at the Nature Center of Oakwoods Metropark near Flat Rock, call 734-782-3956.

Tadpoles (Saturday, February 6, at 10 a.m.; Nature Center) - Children ages 2 to 5 can have fun experiencing nature, playing games, making crafts, and more. "Love is in the Air" is this month's theme. Fee: \$4 per child. Preregistration required.

Nature NUTS (Saturday, February 6, at 10 a.m.; Nature Center) - Children ages 6 to 10 can enjoy experiencing nature, playing games, making crafts, and more. "Sensational Snow" is this month's theme. Fee: \$4 per child. Preregistration required.

Winter Night Hike and Bonfire (Saturday, February 6, at 6:30 p.m.; Nature Center) - Enjoy a brisk evening stroll, followed by refreshments around a bonfire. Fee: \$5 per person. Preregistration required.

Whitetail Wisdom (Sunday, February 7, at 2 p.m.; Nature Center) - Find out what makes whitetails so wonderful during this fun family program. Fee: \$2 per person. Preregistration required.

Homeschool Monday (Monday, February 8, at 10 a.m.; Nature Center) - "Winter Wonderland" is this month's

theme. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Animal Tracking (Saturday, February 13, at 10 a.m.; Nature Center) - Learn how to identify animals by looking for footprints and scat. Fee: \$2 per person. Preregistration required.

For the Love of a Hawk (Saturday, February 20, at 10 a.m.; Nature Center) - Meet Hawkeye, the red-tailed hawk, and learn about red-tails and their ways. Fee: \$2 per person. Preregistration required.

Late Winter Walk (Sunday, February 21, at 2 p.m.; Nature Center) - Enjoy the last bits of winter during this brisk afternoon stroll. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Dream Catcher Workshop (Saturday, February 27, at 10 a.m.; Nature Center) - Learn the legend of the dream catcher and make one of your own. Fee: \$5 per person. Preregistration required.

Winter Scavenger Hunt (Sunday, February 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Nature Center) - Become a nature detective during this exciting scavenger hunt around the nature trails. Fee: \$3 per person. Preregistration required.

Note: General information can be found at www.metroparks.com or by calling 1-800-47-PARKS. □



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Christina Manasco used funds from her piggy bank to purchase items at the Buy-One/Get-One-Free Scholastic Book Fair held last month at Merriman Elementary in Romulus. Altogether, students bought over \$1,400 worth of books!



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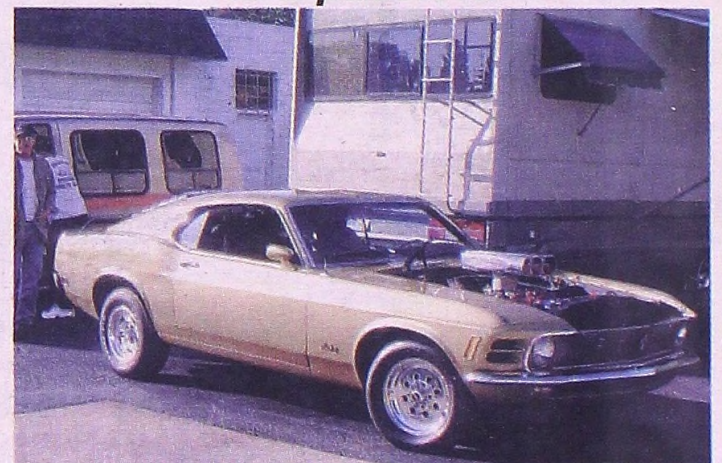
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Around Romulus



Velma Hettich (center) – a 60-year-old, partially paralyzed Southgate woman who takes care of her 80-year-old mother – was selected to receive a 1998 Ford Thunderbird donated to Charity Motors by Clinton Township resident Paul Boyd, who recently passed away. Boyd's children contacted two downtown Romulus businessmen – Doug O'Leary of Romulus Auto Supply/Auto Value (left) and Jake Kardys of Jake's Auto & Truck Repair – who generously donated parts and labor so that Hettich could have a more dependable car.



Fifth-graders at Barth Elementary celebrated the school's annual Heritage Day program last month by bringing in special items to display, delicious traditional dishes to sample, and family members to share their memories.



On January 11, the Romulus Public Library's 2nd Monday Book Club celebrated its fourth birthday with cake, ice cream, presents (of – what else? – books!), and lively discussion about Reeve Lindbergh's *Forward from Here*. Among those in attendance were (from left) front – Shirley Stewart, Kathy Dick, Marie Charles, and Michele Rinehart; back – Wendy Sorenson, Phyllis Kreft, Edward Dixon, Sue Dossette, Diane Hazen, Paulette O'Connor, library director Shelley DeLano, club moderator Jan Conrad, and Midge Prybyla. (Members not pictured: Anna Brougher, Phyllis Elrod, Tiffany Helwig, Diane Hopson, Sylvia Makowski, and Beverly McAnally.) Photo by R. E. Kadau

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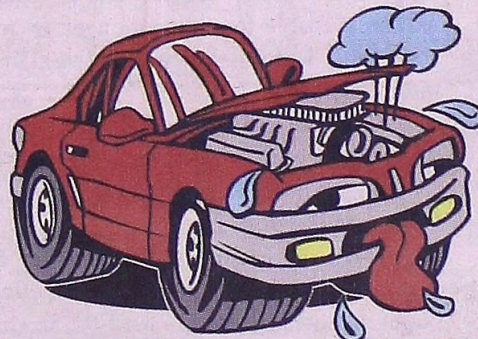
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Community Calendar

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New Boston

Nursery Accepting Registration for Tots Program

Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool for children ages 30 months to 5 years – is now accepting registrations for its "Just You & Me" tots program. The school is located in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street).

Cost is \$50 for the eight-week session, which will meet from 10 to 11:15 a.m. each Saturday beginning March 3.

For information, call 734-753-5978 or visit www.huroncountryside.com.

Romulus

Free Tax Preparation Service

The Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins Street) is offering a free tax-preparation service for residents with low incomes and those who are age 60 and older. Volunteers trained by the IRS will be available by appointment only from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday from February 5 through April 14.

Participants should bring all of the following (relevant) documents: last year's tax returns; forms W-2, SSA-1099, and 1099-R; statements of 401 income and unemployment compensation; child-care expense information; forms indicating income tax paid; and receipts/canceled checks (if itemizing deductions).

Call 734-955-4120 for information.

Second Monday Book Club

Meetings of the Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

Advance registration is not required for this free program; just read the suggested book, then drop in for discussion and refreshments.

Books planned for discussion include:

- *Fasting, Feasting* by Anita Desai (February 8),
- *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* by Mark Twain (March 8),
- *The Wailing Wind* by Tony Hillerman (April 12),
- *Darker Than Night* by Tom Henderson (May 10),
- *One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd* by Jim Fergus (June 14), and
- *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen (July 12).

For information, call 734-942-7589.

Hypnotherapy for Weight Loss

A one-day hypnotherapy session for weight reduction will be held at the Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road) on Saturday, February 13, at 1:30 p.m.

Cost is \$25. Preregister by Thursday, February 11.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Roast Beef Dinner Benefits Church

Community United Methodist Church (11160 Olive Street) will hold its next Roast Beef Dinner fund-raiser on Saturday, February 13, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, veggies, dinner roll, dessert, and beverage will be available for a donation of \$8 for adults and \$4 for children over five. Dine in or carry out!

Proceeds will be used by the Men's Club for its outreach mission ministries.

For information, call 734-941-0736.

Chamber Bowling Night

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Bowling Night at Lodge Lanes (South I-94 Service Drive, Belleville) on Saturday, February 20, from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. (Registration will begin at 7:30 p.m.)

A cost of \$40 per couple (\$20 per person) covers three games of 9-Pin No-Tap Bowling, mystery games, pizza, and door prizes. Cash bar and 50/50 raffles will also be available.

This event is known to sell out, so be sure to get your tickets early! For information, call 734-893-0694 or send an e-mail to info@romuluschamber.com.

Soul Food Dinner Planned

The annual Community Soul Food Dinner, a joint program of Romulus Middle School and the Romulus Ministerial Alliance, will be held at Romulus Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga Road) on Wednesday, February 24, at 6 p.m. Highlights of the event – open to everyone – include a meal featuring traditional dishes and served by local politicians, business people, ministers, and other community leaders.

This year's event, with its theme of "Giving Back," will recognize the city's African-American legends. Entertainment will be provided by the Romulus High School Jazz Band and various church groups.

Although there is no charge to attend the event, those who are able are asked to make a donation to the RMS Student Activity Fund.

For information, call Romulus Middle School at 734-532-1703 or Reverend Rita Talley, event coordinator, at 734-595-6330 (evenings).

Taylor

Council Study Session

The Taylor City Council's next study session will be held at Taylor Sportsplex (13333 Telegraph Road) on Monday, February 1, at 6 p.m. At study sessions, Council members review the agenda for the regular council meeting, but cannot take action on any items.

The study session will be open to the public.

Registration for Taylor Soccer Leagues

Registration for the Taylor Soccer League is scheduled for two weekends in February at the Taylor Sportsplex (13333 Telegraph Road). Sign-ups will be from noon to 5 p.m. on February 6, 7, 13, and 14. Games will be played at Heritage Park.

Visit www.taylorsoccerleague.net for information.

Coffees

Mayor Jeffrey P. Lamarand is inviting constituents to take part in his new "Coffee with the Mayor" program – a series of monthly meetings, held in an informal setting, that will give residents a chance to learn more about the Mayor's plans, ask him questions, and express their concerns.

Upcoming dates/sites include:

- February 9 – Original Philip's Restaurant (21335 Ecorse Road, 6 p.m.);
- March 9 – LaMarina Café & Grill (22395 Goddard Road, 6 p.m.);
- April 13 – Isis Coney Island (26866 Eureka Road, 6 p.m.); and
- May 11 – Little Daddy's (22250 Eureka Road, 6 p.m.).

For information, call Mayor Lamarand's Office: 734-374-1450.

Daddy-Daughter Dance Date Set

Tickets are now on sale for one of the city's most popular annual events.

Daddy-Daughter Dance programs – one from 4 to 6 p.m., a second from 7 to 9 p.m. – will be held on Saturday, February 13, at the William Ford Senior Activity Center (6750 Troy Street).

Fathers and daughters (grades kindergarten through six) will enjoy a Valentine-themed evening of hors d'oeuvres and beverages, corsages for the girls, and a keepsake souvenir photo, as well as dancing to DJ music. Other highlights will include a balloon artist and a chocolate fountain.

Tickets are \$20 per father/daughter couple, plus \$5 for each additional daughter in the same family. Tickets may be purchased at the Parks and Recreation Office (22805 Goddard Road). Note that this event usually sells out quickly, so early registration is advised. *No tickets will be sold at the door.*

For information, call 734-374-3906.

Decoration Contest Winners Announced

Winners of the annual Holiday House Decoration Contest sponsored by the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation were:

- first place: Kenneth Cotton, Sr. (38449 Nottingham Drive),
- second place: Justin Helms and Julie Kennedy (36842 Goddard Road), and
- third place: Calvin and Brenda Harris (15603 Larkdale Court).

The winners received prizes of \$100, \$25, and \$15, respectively. □

WE HEART YOU!

The staff at *the little paper* would like to wish all of our loyal readers a very happy Valentine's Day. You're the sweet secret to our success!

To place up to three free Valentine's Day greetings (maximum of 40 words each) in the little paper, send your message(s), along with your full name and phone number (not for publication), to thelittlepaper@comcast.net. Call 734-941-1907 for info.



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The City would like to thank all of the sponsors who helped to make the calendar possible. □

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For information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate center.

Romulus

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Celebrate Fat Tuesday!

Enjoy a traditional treat at the Romulus Senior Center on February 17, when paczki and coffee will be served from 9 to 11 a.m.

Advance registration is required to insure that there will be enough goodies to go around!

Valentine Luncheon

Visitors from local elementary schools will be joining seniors for a Valentine Luncheon to be held at the Center on Wednesday, February 24, at noon. Those who attend are urged to bring their dancing shoes, as live entertainment featuring the Dubisky and Ryznar bands will be among the afternoon's highlights.

Cost is \$4 per person. Advance registration is required.

Special Trips

Special trips planned for the coming months include:

- **Little River Casino** (Saturday, February 13; \$129),
- **"Mardi Gras"** (Tuesday, February 16; \$18),
- **Fire Keepers** (Saturday, February 20; \$28 includes \$20 in coins, \$5 in food, and breakfast), and
- **Gamblemania** (Thursday and Friday, April 15-16; \$118).

Call for details.

Culinary Class

The Senior Center will resume its monthly culinary classes on Friday, February 19, at 11:30 a.m.

Advance registration is required. Call for details.

Jewelry-making Class

The next of Maria Lambert's always popular jewelry-making classes will be held on Wednesday, February 10, at 5 p.m.

Cost is \$10. Advance sign-up is required.

Regular Programs

Contact the Senior Center for more information on these free or low-cost weekly programs, including:

- bingo (Mondays/Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- knitting/crochet classes (Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.),
- fun night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- game day (Thursdays, 1 p.m.),
- quilting (Thursdays, 6 p.m.),
- painting (Fridays, 11 a.m.), and
- walking club (Fridays, 11 a.m., at the Romulus Athletic Center).

Care-giver Support Group Meets

The next meeting of the Care-giver Support Group will be held on Wednesday, February 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All are welcome.

Monthly Services

The Romulus Senior Center distributes liquid nutrition, commodities, and Focus: HOPE goods.

Call for more information.

Hot Lunches Warm Frigid Afternoons

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot meal at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for a suggested donation of just \$2.25. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation.

Taylor

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AARP Offers Free Tax-preparation Service

Senior citizens (age 60 and over) and people with disabilities or low incomes are invited to take advantage of a free tax-preparation service that will be offered at the Ford Senior Activity Center each Thursday through April 8. *The service will be available by appointment only.*

Call the Center for more information, including a list of required materials/forms.

Homestead Tax Help

Volunteers at the Ford Senior Center will be on hand each Monday *by appointment only* to help seniors (age 65 and older) and disabled individuals prepare their Homestead Property Tax forms.

Call the Center for an appointment.

Valentine's Day Dance

Dance to the music of Solitaire and enjoy hamburgers and dessert when the Ford Senior Center celebrates Valentine's Day on Friday, February 5, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Cost is \$7. Deadline for tickets is Friday, January 29.

"An Afternoon at the Movies"

Enjoy a gourmet buffet and dessert, then see *Valentine's Day*—with free popcorn and beverages!—on Tuesday, February 16. Bus departs from the Center at 10:15 a.m. and returns at about 4 p.m.

A cost of \$18.75 includes transportation, lunch, and admission. Preregistration required.

Restaurant Roundup

Enjoy lunch out at Livonia's Bahama Breeze (Tuesday, February 9) and Northville's Baja Fresh (Tuesday, February 23).

Participants will pay \$2 for transportation, plus the cost of the meal. Advance registration is required.

Greektown Casino

If you love to gamble, but hate the hassles of traffic and parking, this trip to Greektown Casino is for you! The Ford Center's new bus will depart at 9:15 a.m. on Friday, February 19, and return at approximately 4 p.m.

Cost is just \$2! Sign up early.

"Tea Socials"

Local seniors are invited to come to the Center each Wednesday at 1 p.m. for board games, cards, or just to socialize.

New faces are welcome!

Check Your Blood Pressure

The Center has tentatively scheduled free blood-pressure checks from 8:30 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 4; Thursday, February 11; Tuesday, February 16; and Thursday, February 25. Just drop in! □

The Stork Arrived!

Owen Charles Ten Broeck

Peter and Jane (McCraight) Ten Broeck of Wayne, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Owen Charles Ten Broeck.

Owen was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn, MI) at 2:38 p.m. on Friday, December 25, 2009. He weighed 6 lbs., 3 oz., and measured 19.5 in.

Especially excited about Owen's arrival were his older brothers, Cole (age 7) and Liam (age 2). His other big brother, James, is watching over him from Heaven.

Owen's paternal grandparents are Charles and Delores Ten Broeck (Canton, MI) and Carl and Kathy Norman (Livonia, MI). Alexander "Buck" McCraight (Romulus, MI) and the late Betty McCraight are his maternal grandparents. □



Owen Charles Ten Broeck

Obituary

Monica Bradley Roscoe

Monica Bradley Roscoe of Wyandotte, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, January 24, 2010, at the age of 51.

The native of Monroe, Michigan, was born on Friday, March 21, 1958.

Surviving Monica are her father, Robert (Arlene) Roscoe (Taylor, MI); her mother, Dorcas (Hulen) Yates (Romulus, MI); 2 daughters, Angela Mink (Taylor) and Tonia (Craig) Sargent (Trenton, MI); a son, Gordon Payne (Wyandotte); 3 brothers, Robert Jr. (Celeste) Roscoe (Romulus), Billy Yates (Taylor), and Hulen Jr. (Cheryl) Yates (Romulus); and 3 sisters, Jodi Roscoe (Wyandotte), Renee (James) Stafford (Taylor), and Debi (Tim) Meehan (New Boston, MI). Also left behind by "Busha" – as she was fondly known to her grandchildren – were Marissa, Kyle, and Ryan.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, January 27, at Arthur Bobcean Funeral

Home (Flat Rock, MI), with the Reverend Heather Holland (St. Phillip Lutheran Church, Trenton) officiating. □

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Baby's Name _____

Birthdate _____ Time _____

Weight _____ Length _____

Birthplace _____

Parents _____

Address _____

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Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Paternal Grandparents _____

Address _____

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Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, **the little paper** will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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City _____ State _____

Bridesmaids _____

Groomsmen _____

Date of Engagement _____

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